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October 21, 2016

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W., Room TW-B204  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: WC Docket No. 10-90  
WT Docket No. 10-208

Madam Secretary:

In accordance with Section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206, we hereby provide you with notice of an oral ex parte presentation in connection with the above-captioned proceedings. On October 19, 2016, Ben Moncrief and undersigned counsel, on behalf of C Spire Wireless ("C Spire") met with Travis Litman in Commissioner Rosenworcel's office. On October 20, 2016, Mr. Moncrief and David Nace of this office met with Claude Aiken in Commissioner Clyburn's office.

In these meetings, we discussed Mobility Fund Phase II reforms and the Form 477 data, released to the public in late September, 2016. C Spire has begun to review and analyze the data. In its work to date, C Spire has determined that carriers have used significantly different methodologies to generate Form 477 coverage data, resulting in significantly different levels of coverage being depicted on Form 477 maps. Without a consistent set of standards for submitting this engineering data, the overall picture of where coverage and 4G LTE service are available is inaccurate.

For example, C Spire notes that some carriers' 477 maps show coverage that is inconsistent with their web marketing maps, evidence that different methodologies have been employed. Moreover, it appears that different carriers utilize different Reference Signal Receive Power (RSRP) values, which can cause great variations in the radius of a claimed coverage area emanating from the same tower on similar frequencies, altogether preventing carrier-to-carrier coverage comparisons and prohibiting any useful comparative coverage conclusions to be drawn from the existing data.

C Spire does not believe these circumstances indicate that carriers are violating any Commission rules, because there are no established technical standards for a number of key subjective factors involved in the creation of Form 477 data, similar to standards employed by the Commission when carriers submitted Cellular Geographic Service Area maps under the old Part 22 rules.<sup>1</sup> That said, any significant overstatement (or potential understatement) of coverage or mobile broadband service in rural areas could negatively impact any particular area's eligibility for additional investment of universal service support by the Commission, perhaps forever. It is therefore incumbent upon the Commission to insist on a consistent set of standards in the submission of Form 477 coverage data before attempting to redirect billions of universal service support funds in America's vast rural areas.

If you have any questions or require any additional information, please contact undersigned counsel directly.

Sincerely,



David A. LaFuria  
Counsel for C Spire Wireless

cc: Travis Litman  
Claude Aiken  
Ben Moncrief  
David Nace

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<sup>1</sup> See, e.g., 47 C.F.R. Section 22.911 as of 1996, accessed at: <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CFR-1996-title47-vol2/pdf/CFR-1996-title47-vol2-sec22-911.pdf>.